

From: Duane Odom
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/14/02 1:44pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am concerned that this settlement will do little to change Microsoft's behavior or restore competition. The settlement fails to curtail Microsoft's illegal bundling of middleware programs including browsers, media players, and instant messaging software into the monopoly Windows operating system and it is ambiguous and subject to manipulation by Microsoft because it lacks an effective enforcement mechanism.

Microsoft is a monopoly and has used that monopoly position to force others out of business or to bend to fit their desires. This affects people's freedom to choose among alternatives. It affects the price people must pay, directly or indirectly. It also has longer-term implications for people's privacy and security. It means less innovation and lower quality software.

Thank You,
Duane Odom

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